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July 31, 2003

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RECEIVED

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Reference: Docket Number 02-55

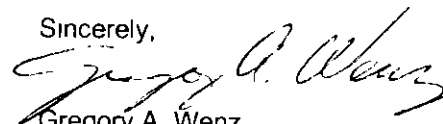
Dear Ms. Dortch:

This letter is to advise you that the Hamilton County Communication Center joins with APCO in support for the "Consensus Plan" filed by public safety organizations, private wireless organizations, and Nextel, in the above-reference Docket to remedy the interference problems plaguing 800 MHz public safety systems nation wide.

Our 800 MHz system provides emergency communications to over 100 law enforcement, fire and EMS agencies in our County. It also supports a number of public service agencies such as the Metropolitan Sewer District and municipal public works, recreations and parks. It was installed to take advantage of interoperability, enhanced coverage and because of its reliability. Harmful interference quickly negates all the reasons we installed the system.

From my perspective the Consensus Plan is the best solution. No governmental entity can afford to do this on its own and I applaud Nextel for offering to fund the fix. Also with Nextel's voluntary involvement the process will happen smoother and much quicker than it would if the FCC was required to mandate this fix. I see this plan as a win-win. The Consensus Plan not only provides additional spectrum, which is a major factor, but it also fixes the problem and provides funds to implement it. And, the problem is fixed for both the private and public stakeholders. We need reliable communications now more than ever as we all fortify our operations to increase homeland security and prepare to respond to incidents that were unheard of only a few years ago.

Sincerely,


Gregory A. Wenz
Operations Director